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1961-04-30, Bette to Parents

Bette J. Barto

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Subject Terms

Women and the military, Women and war, United States -- Air Force, United States -- Army -- Air Forces, Photographs, Armed Forces -- Correspondence, Correspondence -- Vietnam War -- 1961-1975, Christmas

Summary

This collection contains 139 correspondence from Maj. Bette J. Barto, USAFE to her parents while serving as a nurse during the late 1950s and 1960s. Also included are three photographs, one special orders document, and one marriage license. In several cases, Bette refers to her parents as "Lizzie" and "Hugh Elmer," or simply "Elmer." Three letters from 1961 or 1962 are undated and placed in a separate folder.

Keywords

1961-04-30

Identifier

2017-219-w-r-_Barto_ColdWar_1961-04-30

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30 April 61
1030 pm.
Sunday Note

Dear Mom + Daddy,

Overlook the green ink;
my pen is on the blink - no refills
for it!

We are in our house and, Glory
be, almost settled. All our belongings
arrived between 3- 4³⁰ pm Friday and
I haven't sat down, since I talked to
you then. It is such a lovely
place; we are so fortunate to have
it. I wish you could rush right
down and see it - even before I
get my curtains up! There are white
venetian blinds on every window.
They're not really dirty, but aren't
clean; so I want to wash them before
I put up my drapes + curtains!
We did the tile floors but
decided to let my ward master

and several carpenters come over and do my floors next Saturday. I lack only my two trunks and I'm all unpacked. Since I don't have the china closet, I'm short on dish space in the kitchen, and I'll probably be short on storage space for linens; since I don't want to leave anything in the outside storage units. They'd be safe enough as far as being locked up, but everyone says it's so damp & humid here in the summer that any clothing & shoes not kept in air-conditioning may mildew. Ray says not, but I don't want to risk it.

We have had a lovely time on our patio barbecuing pork chops tonight - steak last nite. Ray's beer, my cook while I put things in order. It's nice to wash your hands

throw up a salad, set the table, and have your dinner served by the man of the house! He doesn't mind the cooking, but quickly disappears at dish-washing time. That's even fun though with the dishwasher. That's a life-saver. I was able to have my whole kitchen in order in one evening - all dishes washed & put away and used only one dish towel. The dishwasher isn't fool proof. It's almost as soon to fool with it. You must practically wash them before putting them in, otherwise they come out with food almost baked on. I tried a greasy spatula to see - it's how I'm learning. Helen's can opener & salad maker is the berries too - So come on down, your room's ready anytime. Gotta go to bed - tomorrow's a work day. Ray's napping in his chair now. More later; Love you both
Belle

30 April
" In our house "

'61